



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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NEWS RELEASE

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Corps issues safety guidelines prior to and during emergency levee construction

Omaha, Neb. – Due to construction work along and near the Missouri River over the next several weeks, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is asking residents of Pierre and Fort Pierre, South Dakota to take additional safety measures in order to prevent unnecessary injuries or damage to people or equipment.

Recent flood control efforts in both cities have resulted in multiple instances of major road congestion, particularly in areas of sandbagging work. These traffic problems have been exacerbated by the need for large trucks to maneuver through, in some cases, narrow residential streets.

As the flood protection measures are increased over the next week, residents can expect roads to be nearly impassable at times. In addition, the use of multiple types of construction equipment will create additional hazards and dangers to individuals who are near the work-sites. While the unprecedented nature of the activity is obviously tempting to on-lookers, it is highly recommended that those not actively involved in the construction activity avoid the area as much as possible.

With most students having completed their school year, it is likely that a larger number than usual of young people will be attracted to the work activity. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers strongly urges parents and guardians to keep good accountability of their children and keep safely from the construction work. Residents can also expect higher than normal levels of noise during nighttime hours due to the 24-hour schedules of the work crews.

Public safety and the prevention of loss of life are the top priorities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. During any flood response activities throughout the entire Missouri River basin, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will provide regular updates directly to the public via its Facebook (www.facebook.com/OmahaUSACE) and Twitter accounts (www.twitter.com/OmahaUSACE). View daily and forecast reservoir and river information on the Water Management section of the Northwestern Division homepage at: <http://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc>.

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